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doptera, Diptera and certain Hymenoptera are more numerous than the other orders; that the number of genera, species and individuals of nectarophilous insects is proportional to that of flowers, and is sometimes incalculable; that the hours of opening and closing of nyctitropic flowers (which are much more numerous than usually believed) are synchronous with the awakening and sleep of insects; that the apparent number of nectarophilous insects is in physiological and physical relation with the number of their favorite flowers, the calorific and hygrometric, calm or troubled state of the atmosphere, and also with the rainy, stormy, dark or bright state of the sky.

M. Musset adds that dew is one of the predominant causes of the

temporary absence of insects.

Botanical Literature.

Contributions to American Botany. X. By Sereno Watson. From the Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Vol. xvii., pp. 316-382.

The contents of this tenth Contribution by Mr. Watson, which was presented to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences May 5th, and issued August 10th of the present year, are: I. 'List of Plants from Southwestern Texas and Northern Mexico, collected chiefly by Dr. E. Palmer in 1879-'80. (Part 1. Polypetalae).'—This collection was made in 1879, mostly in the region lying northwest of San Antonio, Texas, and along the routes from that place to Laredo and Eagle Pass on the Rio Grande, and in 1880 in the States of Coahuila and Nuevo Leon in Mexico. In addition, determinations are given of a collection made by Dr. J. G. Schaffner in the State of San Luis Potosi, as well as of some plants received from Prof. Alfred Duges of Guanajuato, Mexico. Forty-six new species are described. II. 'Descriptions of New Species of Plants chiefly from our Western Territories.'—In this paper, descriptions are given of seventy-seven species, all but three of which have hitherto been unknown to science.

U. S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries. (Part vii.) Report of the Commissioner for 1879. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1882.

In this Report, just distributed, we find Prof. Farlow's elaborate account of the Marine Algae of New England—a paper which the author issued over a year ago in the form of a reprint, and which we noticed at some length at the time. (Bulletin, Vol. viii., p. 94.)

SERIAL PUBLICATIONS.

Bulletin of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences. Vol. iv., No. 3. (August).—'The Plants of Buffalo and its Vicinity' (Part i.), by David F. Day.

The Syracuse Botanical Club.—We learn from Mrs. Rust that at the March meeting of the Syracuse Botanical Club the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Mrs. M. J. Myers; Vice-President, Mrs. D. F. Gott; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Harriet White; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Kate S. Barnes; Treasurer, Mrs. Annie D. Fairbanks.